130. Need for special concessions to the Mahomedan community in the matter of education.

Mr. P. K. Mahomed (Member, Nominated) made the following proposals:—

(1) A separate amount should be ear-marked in the State Budget every year for Mahomedan education.

(2) A Committee should be appointed to select Arabic text-books. Arabic Books should be adapted from similar ones in use in Arabic-speaking countries.

(3) Mahomedans should be exempted from the obligation to put up school-houses.

(4) Mahomedan teachers should, as far as possible, be appointed in Mahomedan schools.

(5) Mahomedan youths should be admitted into other branches of the State service also.

(6) The Muslim Hostel recently established in Trivandrum should be given a grant-in-aid or one should be separately started by Government for the benefit of Muslim youths. There were at present 25 Mahomedan students.

(7) The provision made for the teaching of Arabic in schools having a strength of 25 Mahomedan pupils should be rigidly worked.

(8) Education should be made compulsory so far as the Mahomedans were concerned, as that step alone would make educational progress possible among the community. If necessary, a Committee composed of the Mahomedan Inspector of Schools and a few leaders of the community might be appointed to inquire into the question. The community would be glad to pay a cess on education, if necessary.

(9) An English school should be established at Munambam.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

131. Encouragement of the Araya community by entertaining them more freely in Government service.

Mr. K. Velayudha Panikkan (Member, Nominated) described the present economic condition of the people in the matter of their helplessness to get food, decadence of their industries and their utter dependence on others for mere material existence. All that was due, to a large extent, to the system of education followed by Government—a system which had deprived the youths of the land of their capacity to earn and had made them economic slaves. It had, further, starved all industries and handicrafts which had once made Travancore prosperous and happy. It had considerably swelled the ranks of the unemployed. It was, therefore, high time that the system of education was changed, at least so far as the Araya community was concerned. The community was highly grateful to Government for the half-fee concession, but further concessions in the shape of appointments to the qualified members of the community should also be granted. Besides agriculture, the occupation of the members of the community was fishing, coir-making, &c. As, without the latter avocations, it was impossible for them to eke out their livelihood, arrangements should be made for making those occupations more lucrative. There should be manufactories for the pursuit of such industries as soap-making, candle-making, weaving, &c. In conclusion, the Member requested that a Technical institute for the encouragement of any of the above industries should be attached to the Higher Grade Vernacular school now in existence at Alappad or a separate one established by Government.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

132. Educational needs of Kayankulam with special reference to the local incomplete Higher Grade English school.

Mr. N. J. Varghese (Member, Trading Classes, Kayankulam) reiterated the circumstances under which the idea of a Higher Grade English school for Kayankulam first materialised and submitted that, as per the conditions agreed to, the building had been completed by the people and Forms IV and V opened. Now when all

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the works as per the terms agreed upon had been carried out, they were being asked to put up ceiling to the rooms and also construct compound walls, which was hard upon them. They had undertaken to construct a building to cost only Rs. 10,000; but they had been able to build a structure which had already swallowed up Rs. 12,000. The Member, therefore, requested that Government should themselves provide the ceiling and put up the compound walls, or kindly order early payment of the grant of money in lieu of timber, promised in their letter F. & M. R. No. 645, dated the 28th February 1918, and that Form VI be opened from the beginning of the next school year.

The Member agreed with the views of the other Members who pleaded for increase of pay to teachers in aided schools. The other requests of the Member were that a Lower Grade English school and a Higher Grade Vernacular school for girls be opened at Kayankulam, especially because there were 150 girls in all classes from the Preparatory Class to Form III and 400 girls who were studying in the Higher Grade Vernacular school for boys.

Dewan's reply.—The representation of the Member will be considered.

133. Education and improvements to be effected in the town of Alleppey.

Mr. N. Subbaraya Shenoi (Member, T. I. C., Alleppey) said that the present system of education had led to very undesirable results, that the period of tutelage was too long, that it ought to begin when a pupil was 4 or 5 years old and go on till his 10th, 12th or 14th age when his aptitude should be tested and a different course suited to his inclinations and taste provided for him. Preferably a technical course should be thrown open to him. In conclusion, he entreated Government to arrange for the teaching of the various branches of technical education in all schools, departmental and private. The Member also requested that the pay of teachers in grant in-aid schools should be increased.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

134. Need for opening a High School at Haripad.

Mr. K. Velayudhan Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Haripad) detailed the circumstances under which the Haripad High School disappeared and then described the nature of the financial aid the people of the taluk had rendered towards the promotion of Vernacular and English education of the lower grade. He then explained the poverty of the people, and said that it was impossible for them to contribute towards a building for the High School. His request was that they should be exempted from the conditions that were being recently insisted on for opening High Schools and that a High School be opened by Government at Haripad at once.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

VIII. RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

135. Management of Sirkar and Ooranma Devaswoms.

Mr. Thrivikraman Vasudevan (Member, Jenmi, Padmanabhapuram Division) complained of the utter neglect which characterised the minor Devaswoms and to some extent the major ones also and observed that many of the temples taken over by Government had large landed properties. Those properties had become merged in the Sirkar lands and were treated as Pandarapattom at the Settlement and, in spite of the vast amount of wealth which was also taken possession of by Government along with the temple management, the temples suffered and in many of them no *pujas* were being performed; there were also cases in which expenditure of money was being brought to account though the temples or deities themselves did not exist. It was high time that an enquiry was made into the matter with the object of ascertaining the number of temples on which expenditure was being incurred without the material form either of temples or deities. Again, another serious defect of the present management of temples was that, while large sums were being received as *nadavaravus* in many rich temples such as those at Suchindram, Kumarakoil, etc., a large portion of them was being misappropriated. With a view to remove

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